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Newark's Ironbound To Have a Second Park

NEWARK — Residents of Newark's Ironbound section, who once feared they would lose their only park, will now have two.

Yesterday, Newark and Essex County officials unveiled plans for a \$4 million, 8.2-acre park adjacent to the existing Riverbank Park along the Passaic River. Riverbank Park had been chosen as the site for a minor league baseball stadium but county and city officials chose another site after a public outcry over what would have been the loss of the park as open space.

The new park, to be called Riverfront Park at Brill Street, was originally intended as a replacement for Riverbank Park, but will now be built as a complement to it, said Pamela E. Goldstein, a spokeswoman for Mayor Sharpe James of Newark. Riverbank has been closed for 18 months because of industrial contamination but is to reopen sometime next year, Ms. Goldstein said.

Joseph Della Fave, president of the Ironbound Community Corporation, a residents' group that had opposed the stadium, said he welcomed the new park, which will include soccer fields, tennis and basketball courts, and space for roller skating and in-line hockey.